

# Interim Remedial Action

## *Excavation Depths Explained*

### **Shallow Excavation, up to 5ft – on *large and small vacant lots***

- The excavation depth of up to 5 feet below ground surface (bgs) will address risks to human health posed by lead and pesticides, which data has shown are only in the shallow soil.
- Lead and pesticides are the primary contaminants of concern in these areas.
- Lead and pesticides generally have limited mobility once in the soil, and therefore are mainly found immediately nearby their historic release areas. The excavation may be approximately more or less than 5 ft, depending on the depth of the contaminants in a particular area.
- Sources of lead in shallow soil include former lead foundry operations and leaded gasoline, which produced lead-laden dust that settled on surface soils.
- Sources of pesticides in shallow soil are from former chemical handling and storage at the site. This came mainly from spills from chemical handling and leaks from containers to shallow soils.

### **Source Area Excavation, up to 15 ft. – on *main AMCO property***

- Excavation up to 15 ft will remove the primary source of groundwater contamination. The depth of excavation may vary and will be limited by the shallow water table.
- Primary contaminants of concern on the AMCO property include volatile organic compounds (VOCs).
- VOCs are present in soil gas, dissolved in groundwater, and in pure liquid form. VOCs are mobile and have migrated downwards through the soil to the groundwater. Data indicate that the highest concentrations of VOCs are located up to 15 feet below ground.
- Possible sources of VOCs include:
  - Spills during chemical transfer from rail cars
  - Underground Storage Tanks
  - Buried chemical distribution piping
  - Buried chemical drums
  - Aboveground Storage Tanks